



First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – March 23, 2015

FirstNet News

- Several members of the FirstNet team attended the 2015 International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) this past week in Las Vegas, Nevada, as did many of the state single points of contact (SPOC) and members of their teams. The conference was a great opportunity for FirstNet, through 13 FirstNet related sessions, to hear about activities and highlight progress made to the seven-thousand public and private sector attendees. For more information visit our blog at <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/coordination-and-education-iwce-2015>
- FirstNet held monthly SPOC/Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) calls with all ten regions reaching 83 representatives from 43 states and territories. The discussion included a high level overview of the second public notice, the March 23rd FirstNet/NTIA webinar, which will cover data collection and SLIGP Phase 2 funding, and the draft agenda for the 2015 SPOC Meeting to be held April 14-15. In addition to the link to respond to the notice on [our website](#) additional information is available here: [FAQ about the Second Notice](#)
- NTIA recently released SLIGP metrics and milestones for Q6, quarter ending December 31, 2014, available at http://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/slignp_q6_metrics_for_website.pdf
- 53 states and territories have registered for the 2015 SPOC Meeting in Reston April 14-15. Following our discussions during the monthly calls, the agenda is nearing finalization. Members of the PSAC Tribal Working Group will be present for a joint session to discuss effective tribal engagement during this workshop. The special room rate for the [Reston Hyatt](#) ends today, March 23.
- This week FirstNet will be participating in the March 24 NASCIO Broadband and Telecommunications Committee Webinar, the March 27 IACP State and Provincial Policing Conference in Alexandria, VA, and the March 27 Competitive Carriers Association Expo in Atlanta, GA.

- The consultation team conducted the 17th initial consultation meeting in Nebraska last week with more than 120 public safety stakeholders on hand, including Nebraska Lt. Gov. Mike Foley. This week FirstNet staff will conduct the Washington DC initial consultation meeting on March 26.

- To date, FirstNet has received 49 of 56 completed consultation checklists. Confirmed upcoming initial consultation meetings are: Washington DC (3/26), South Dakota (4/1), Missouri (4/7), New York (4/20), North Carolina (4/23), South Carolina (4/30), West Virginia (5/5), Arkansas (5/14), Louisiana (5/15), Virgin Islands (5/19), Maine (5/20), Idaho (5/21), New Hampshire (6/9), New Mexico (6/10), Ohio (6/11), Vermont (6/16), Kansas (6/17), Wisconsin (6/18), California (6/23-25), Illinois (7/14), Alabama (7/15), Georgia (7/21), Tennessee (7/23) Pennsylvania (8/4), Hawaii (8/12), Indiana (8/26), and New Jersey (9/3).

- The FirstNet consultation tracker is available via the website link: <http://firstnet.gov/consultation/meetings>

- This week marks the next set of FirstNet Board and Committee meetings. On March 24, 2015 there will be sequential meetings between 9:00 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time of FirstNet's four Board Committees: (1) Governance and Personnel; (2) Technology; (3) Outreach; and (4) Finance. The full FirstNet Board will hold a meeting on March 25, 2015 between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. All meetings will be held at the Department of Commerce headquarters building in Washington, DC, as well as being webcast. Additional information is available at this link: [FirstNet Board](#).

- The next quarterly SPOC webinar will be held on Thursday, April 2 from 2:00 – 3:30 pm Eastern Daylight Time. This webinar, which will also include the Public Safety Advisory Committee and Tribal Working Group (TWG) members, will focus on follow up from the March Board meetings. The link and call in number should be on your Outlook calendar now.

- Today, Tim Pierce begins with FirstNet as the Region 5 Lead. In this capacity, Tim will serve as FirstNet's single point of contact to and lead FirstNet's outreach and consultation activities with the public safety community in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Tim comes from the state of Wisconsin where he was the SPOC and SWIC. He has also served as a Communications Unit Leader (COML) with the Wisconsin Statewide Incident Management Team as well as a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician (EMT).

- The next monthly TWG teleconference will be held on Tuesday, April 7 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT. To be discussed will be the April 1 South Dakota state consultation and April 14-15 2015 National SPOC Meeting in Reston, VA.
- Chris Eck, FirstNet Federal Preservation Officer (FPO), is endeavoring to attend the To Bridge a Gap Meeting, this year being hosted by the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. This annual event is an official government-to-government interaction between the Forest Service and tribal nations.

From the States and PSAC Organizations

- PSAC member Charlie Sasser presented on FirstNet, the PSAC and SAFECOM ([view the SAFECOM in 100 seconds video](#)) at the National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD) southern region meeting on March 10. Meeting attendees included state information technology directors and technology hardware, software and services vendors from Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

Media coverage was heavy this past week, with several trade publications covering the

IWCE conference (TRDaily, Mission Critical, Urgent Communications, RCR Wireless). There were also local stories related to our consultation efforts in the states and territories.

IWCE 2015: Lessons learned from FirstNet early builders

<http://www.rcrwireless.com/20150320/network-infrastructure/lte/iwce-2015-lessons-learned-from-firstnet-early-builders-tag6>

The early pioneers in public safety LTE broadband shared some of their experiences in a panel discussion at IWCE 2015, and some of their pain points – probably unsurprisingly – sounded like those of commercial mobile operators, including opposition to tower siting impacting deployment timelines and anxiety from some first responders about exposure to radio frequencies from new sites.

Local officials briefed about FirstNet

<http://www.leavenworthtimes.com/article/20150319/NEWS/150319251>

After a major disaster, cellphone networks can become overloaded. And this can pose a problem for emergency responders who use these systems. That's why there is an effort to create a nationwide wireless broadband network exclusively for public safety personnel, according to Derek Voorhis, public safety broadband outreach coordinator for the state of Kansas.

State looks to FirstNet to build, operate network committed to public safety

http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/local/state-looks-to-firstnet-to-build-operate-network-committed-to/article_2b1c1f6a-ce57-11e4-8771-e766f234d962.html

Nebraska Lt. Gov. Mike Foley spoke to many of the state's emergency responders during the first FirstNet public safety network consultation meeting Wednesday in Kearney. As an initiative from the federal government, FirstNet's mission is to build, operate and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety, according to its website. About 100 public safety officials from across the state met with representatives from FirstNet Wednesday and today to discuss issues facing their departments, particularly in communication.

Web and Social Media

Social media discussions about FirstNet focused on IWCE and consultation, as well as local outreach efforts in the states and territories. We posted a blog about the IWCE keynote presentation which included video highlights from the presentation: <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/coordination-and-education-iwce-2015>. In addition, our blog on the Identity, Credential, & Access Management (ICAM) report was popular over social media and cited in some news articles, including this Fierce Mobile Government report: <http://www.fiercemobilegovernment.com/story/authorized-access-firstnet-communications-network-devices-key-during-develo/2015-03-18>; The FirstNet Twitter account has grown to over 1,909 followers; LinkedIn 603; Google+ 30; and YouTube has 95 subscribers.